

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending. Claims 2, 4 and 12-29 have been canceled. Claims 1, 3 and 5-11 are under examination.

Submitted herewith is a Sequence Listing in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.821-1.825. Sequence Listing pages 1 through 43 are submitted herewith containing Sequences 1 through 202, formatted in accordance with the conventions set forth by PatentIn. The specification has been amended to insert SEQ ID NOS corresponding to the Sequence Listing submitted herewith. Entry of these pages and amendment to the specification is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3 and 6-11 have been amended. New claims 30-72 have been added. Support for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification and the claims as filed. Accordingly, these amendments and new claims do not raise an issue of new matter and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Regarding the Sequence Listing

As discussed above, Applicant submits herewith a Sequence Listing to comply with the request for Sequence Listing, and the specification has been amended to add corresponding SEQ ID NOS. It has been noted that the Sequence Listing is incomplete, and a corrected Sequence Listing is in the process of being prepared.

Regarding the Objections to the Claims

The objection to claims 1, 3 and 5-11 for informalities is respectfully traversed. The claims have been amended to correct informalities as suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objections be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The rejection of claims 1, 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite is respectfully traversed. The claims have been amended to address the indefiniteness rejections. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The rejection of claims 1, 3, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly obvious over Uijtewaal et al., EP 0416572 A1, Leone et al., Nuc. Acids Res. 26:2150-2155 (1998) and Heid et al., Gen. Res. 6:986-994 (1996), is respectfully traversed. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are unobvious over the cited references.

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not teach or suggest the claimed processes. Absent such a teaching or suggestion, the cited references cannot render the claims obvious. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

In light of the amendments and remarks herein, Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent if there are any questions.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502624 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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